

# READINGS IN SOCIAL AND ISLAMIC ISSUES

JAMIL FAROOQUI



IIUM Press  
International Islamic University Malaysia

# **READINGS IN SOCIAL AND ISLAMIC ISSUES**

# **READINGS IN SOCIAL AND ISLAMIC ISSUES**

*Edited by*  
**Jamil Farooqui**



**IIUM Press**

Published by:  
IIUM Press  
International Islamic University Malaysia

Copy no: 11251293  
Initial: AAR  
Date: 21/5/12  
Location: MAIN / PJ / STAC / NILAI / 0151  
First Edition, 2012  
IIUM Press, IIUM

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise, without any prior written permission of the publisher.

Perpustakaan Negara Malaysia

Cataloguing-in-Publication Data

Readings in social and Islamic issues / edited by Jamil Farooqui

Include index

ISBN 978-967-418-213-7

I. Islam & State--Malaysia. II. Knowledge, theory of (Islam).

1. Farooqui, Jamil

297.09595

ISBN: 978-967-418-213-7

Member of Majlis Penerbitan Ilmiah Malaysia — MAPIM  
(Malaysian Scholarly Publishing Council)

Printed by:  
IIUM Printing Sdn. Bhd.  
No. 1, Jalan Industri Batu Caves 1/3  
Taman Perindustrian Batu Caves  
68100 Batu Caves  
Selangor Darul Ehsan  
Website : [www.iiumprinting.com](http://www.iiumprinting.com)

# **CONTENTS**

---

Foreword	vii
Introduction	ix
<b>1. Rural-Urban Linkages with Special Reference to Japan and Malaysia</b>	<b>1</b>
<i>Mohammad Aris Othman</i>	
<b>2. Socio-Cultural Perspective on Safety at Workplace in Small and Medium Industries: A Case Studies of FELDA</b>	<b>25</b>
<i>Krishna Gopal Rampal, Noor Azlan Mohd.Noor, Nornajihah Mohd, Nor, Isfandi Adi Ahmad</i>	
<b>3. Socio-economic Profile of Squatters: A Case Study of Kampung Setia Jaya</b>	<b>61</b>
<i>Khairil Azhar Haji Md. Yassin</i>	
<b>4. Towards a Social Psychology of Cyberspace: Exploring Cyberfriendship Formation among Malaysian Youth</b>	<b>79</b>
<i>Abu Sadat Nurullah</i>	
<b>5. Malaysian Women in Education, Marriage and Workforce (1957-2008)</b>	<b>109</b>
<i>Rohaiza Rokis</i>	
<b>6. Participant Observation Method in a Sociological Study of Factory Workers</b>	<b>139</b>
<i>Fatimah Hasnah Daud</i>	

<b>7. The Muslim World and the West</b>	151
<i>Jamil Farooqui</i>	
<b>8. Folklore Studies on the Qur'an: A Critique</b>	177
<i>Ahmad Abd Al-Rahim Nasr</i>	
<b>9. The Status of Women in Islam: A Sociological Perspective</b>	203
<i>Jamil Farooqui</i>	
<b>10. Fostering Inter-Group Interaction: An Islamic Approach</b>	229
<i>Abdul Mumin Abdulai</i>	
<b>List of Contributors</b>	245
<b>Index</b>	247

# **THE STATUS OF WOMEN IN ISLAM: A SOCIOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE**

---

**Jamil Farooqui \***

## **INTRODUCTION**

Women are a vital part of humanity as are their counterparts men. They play, beyond a shadow of a doubt, a determinant role in preserving, continuing and enriching the human race. They are human beings and, as such, have the same physiological traits, abilities and skills with a few exceptions. They have the same rights and privileges to exist and operate in this world as well as to maintain their dignity. They are neither less important nor have inferior status in comparison to men. They are the constituent element of a system which we call family, and without which the system would be dysfunctional. In fact, men and women are the two units of a system and work together to operate the system so as to achieve definite goals. Thus, they are dependent on and complement each other. They are incomplete without each other and cannot survive without each other.

Human beings in the wake of social developments have tasted the significance of power and wealth and found them the best factors to satisfy their material and psychological needs as well as to accomplish their ambitions. They have tried their best to obtain these factors by hook or by crook and, further, used them for the gratification of their needs and the satisfaction of their egos that increased day by day. In this process, they grabbed all the objects and commodities which they considered valuable or helpful for maximum gratification and pleasure.

---

\* Jamil Farooqui is Professor, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Kulliyah of Islamic Revealed Knowledge and Human Sciences, International Islamic University Malaysia.